THE MINISTER OF STATE OFTHE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) During 1997-98 to 2000-2001, the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has submitted the following reports to die Hon'ble President of India:

(i) Fourth Report for the year 1996-97 & 1997-98 (combined);

(ii) Fifth Report for the year 1998-99;

(iii) Special Report on the implementation of the SCs and STs {Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 in the State of Uttar Pradesh; and

(iv) Special Report on the working of the Special Courts set up under the SCs and STs (POA) Act, 1989, Madhya Pradesh.

These reports have been processed as per provision under clauses 6 and 7 of the Article 338 of the Constitution. The Fourth Report has been already laid before both houses of the Parliament along with the Action Taken Memoranda.

Action is being taken on the other reports in consultation with the concerned Ministry/Department and State Governments.

**Financial Assistance for Post-Matric Education to SCs/STs in Rajasthan**

2994. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government provide financial assistance to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students for the post-matric education;

(b) if so, whether Government have provided any such assistance to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students in Rajasthan, so far;

(c) if so, the details of the amount given during the last two years; and

(d) if not, die reasons for not providing the amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, Government provides central assistance to the State Governments and Union Territory

Administrations, which implement the Scheme. The assistance is provided to students pursuing post matric education. The details of Central assistance provided to the State of Rajasthan, during the years 1999-2000 and 2000-01 under the Scheme, are given below:

(Rs. In Lakhs)

| Year | Central Assistance Released To Govt. Rajasthan |
|---|---|
| 1999-2000 | 526.59 |
| 2000-01 | 411.36 |

**Projects for Utilisation of Special Central Assistance**

2995. SHRI P.N. SIVA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have asked States to set up projects for utilisation of Special Central Assistance;

(b) if so, the guidelines for such Special Assistance Project;

(c) whether any representations have been received from social activists for any such projects in Andhra Pradesh in the year 2000-2001; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OFTHE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The States/UTs have been asked to prepare project proposals for utilization of Special Central Assistance (SCA) by dovetailing up to 50% of the unit cost limiting to Rs. 10,000 per beneficiary as subsidy out of SCA and balance amount as loan from National Scheduled Castes Finance & Development Corporation for Assisting Scheduled Castes families, living below poverty line, in an integrated manner, as well as setting up required infrastructure for supporting the activities and provision of required forward and backward linkages.

(c) and (d) Dr. P. Puallarao, West Godavari District, had requested for assisting SC families belonging to the poorest section in the West Godavari District. The matter has been referred to the State Secretary, Deptt. of Social Welfare, for appropriate action, as per guidelines.